Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
PA1774WO		
International application No.	International filing date *(day/month/year)*	Priority date *(day/month/year)*
PCT/FR2004/001806	08.07.2004	10.07.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC

H04Q9/16

Applicant

COMMISSARIAT A L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

   a. ☒ *(sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau)* a total of 3 sheets, as follows:

      ☒ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

      ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

   b. ☐ *(sent to the International Bureau only)* a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s))

      _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

☒	Box No. I	Basis of the report
☐	Box No. II	Priority
☐	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
☐	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
☒	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
☐	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
☐	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
☐	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/FR2004/001806

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))

☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)

☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished

☒ the description:

pages 1-12 as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☒ the claims:

nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished

nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

nos.* 1-10 received by this Authority on 07.07.2005 with fax

nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☒ the drawings:

sheets 1/3-3/3 as originally filed/furnished

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing *(specify)*: _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing *(specify)*: _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing *(specify)*: _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing *(specify)*: _____

* *If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."*

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/FR2004/001806

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-10	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

1. Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: US 3 737 858 A (TURNER L ET AL) 5 June 1973 (1973-06-05);

D2: EP 0 744 627 A (PALOMAR TECH CORP) 27 November 1996 (1996-11-27).

2 The present application does not fulfil the requirements set forth in **PCT Article 33(1)** because the subject matter of claim 1 does not involve an **inventive step** as defined in **PCT Article 33(3)**.

Document **D1**, which is considered to be the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1, describes (the references between parentheses apply to said document):

a method for addressing a plurality of microsystems (**1A - Mm**) that can be addressed separately by a control circuit (**13**), wherein said control circuit (**13**) and each microsystem (**1A - Mm**) comprise electromagnetic transmission

means (**figure 1; column 4, lines 36-43**) and each microsystem (**1A - Mm**) comprises a counter and has an address code. Said method involves a step of addressing said microsystems (**1A - Mm**), wherein said control circuit (**13**) transmits a series of increment signals, each microsystem (**1A - Mm**) controls the resetting of its counter (**column 6, lines 23-26; column 23, lines 62-65**) and, upon receiving an increment signal (**column 5, lines 13-20; column 5, lines 47-49**) controls the incrementation of the content of its counter, and each microsystem (**1A - Mm**) compares the content of its counter with its address code in such a way as to trigger the execution of a predetermined command when the content of its counter and its address code are identical (**column 5, lines 45-56**), which method is characterised in that said microsystems (**1A - Mm**) form an array of microsystems (**1A - Mm**) (**figure 1**) and said method comprises an initialising step during which, sequentially and for each microsystem (**1A - Mm**), said control circuit (**13**) addresses the microsystem (**1A - Mm**) by assigning a reduced address code thereto, said code being provided by said control circuit (**13**) (**column 5, lines 45-58**).

It follows that the subject matter of claim 1 **differs** from the known microsystem addressing method in that:

Box No. V — Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

The control circuit addresses each microsystem by means of its **identification code**, which is stored in a **non-volatile memory** in said microsystem, and said reduced address code is stored in a registry in the microsystem **memory**.

Document **D1** already discloses that a reduced address code is assigned to the microsystem. When assigning the reduced address code to a microsystem, it would be obvious to a person skilled in the art that said microsystem must first be addressed by means of its identification code. The use of a non-volatile memory to store the identification code is merely a design option. It would also obvious for said reduced address code to be stored in the microsystem, in particular, in the memory.

As a result, the subject matter of **claim 1** is not inventive (**PCT Article 33(1) and (3)**).

3. Dependent claims 2-10

The subject matter of claims 2-10 is not inventive (**PCT Article 33(1) and (3)**). The subject matter of claims 2-10 is known from documents **D1-D2** and/or relates merely to practices that would be obvious to a person skilled in the art.